

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

For Week Ending May 3, 1992

Issue: 08-92

Released: 5/4/92 - 3:00 p.m.

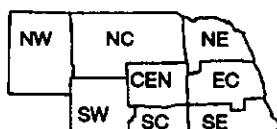
Phone: (402) 437-5541

Location: 273 Federal Bldg.

P.O. Box 81069

Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources-UN-L

WEATHER

The week was warm and mild. Temperatures averaged from six to ten degrees above normals. Only scattered precipitation, ranging from a trace up to a tenth of an inch, occurred throughout the week.

GENERAL

Favorable weather for fieldwork last week enabled many farmers to get a strong start with spring planting, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Other fieldwork activities included pre-plant tillage operations and fertilizer applications, some early irrigation to aid corn and sugar beet germination, and working summer fallow ground.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition was rated at 5% very poor, 15% poor, 49% fair, 26% good, and 5% excellent. Reports continued to indicate that some producers have had to destroy some acreage which was damaged by the dry fall and March freeze. Hot, dry weather last week increased the need for rainfall as some fields were showing signs of

CROPS (Cont.)

drought stress. Chinch bugs have been observed in some fields in the East Central and Southeast Districts. Spraying continued for pale western and army cutworms in the Panhandle.

Corn planting made excellent progress last week over most of the State. Many producers were able to make up for their late start. Overall, planting was 38% complete as of Sunday. This completion rate is now well ahead of last year at 25% and slightly ahead of the 5-year average of 36%. With last week's "topsoil drying" winds, some producers have started pivots and sprinklers to "bring up" the corn.

Alfalfa condition was rated at 1% poor, 38% fair, 54% good, and 7% excellent.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 88% of normal. Cattle have been moving onto pastures although spring grass growth has been slow due to the lack of continual warmer temperatures. Some supplemental feeding continued to be necessary. Moisture will be needed shortly where soil profiles are not adequately storing moisture. Producers continued to work calves.

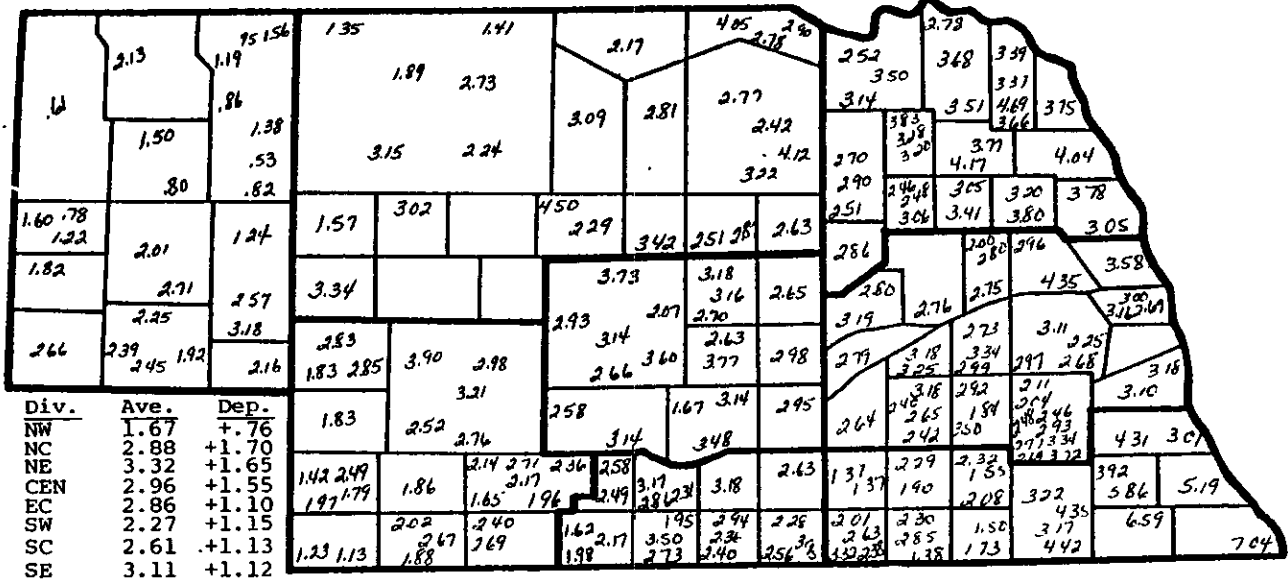
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 3, 1992	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% corn planted	23	20	15	51	26	52	86	48	38	9	25	36
% wheat jointed	47	34	32	35	59	82	82	83	67	28	34	48
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 1, 1992												
Days suitable	6.9	7.0	4.6	6.9	4.6	6.7	7.0	4.8	5.8	3.3	3.7	
Topsoil moisture - Short	87	20	0	54	0	64	85	0	34	14	10	
(Percent) - Adequate	13	80	100	46	96	36	15	86	63	68	74	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	14	3	18	16	
Subsoil moisture - Short	33	10	6	27	8	18	15	43	19	9	52	
(Percent) - Adequate	67	90	94	73	88	82	85	50	79	90	46	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	7	2	1	2	

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 273 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$15.00 per year to non-reporters. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS
P.O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501

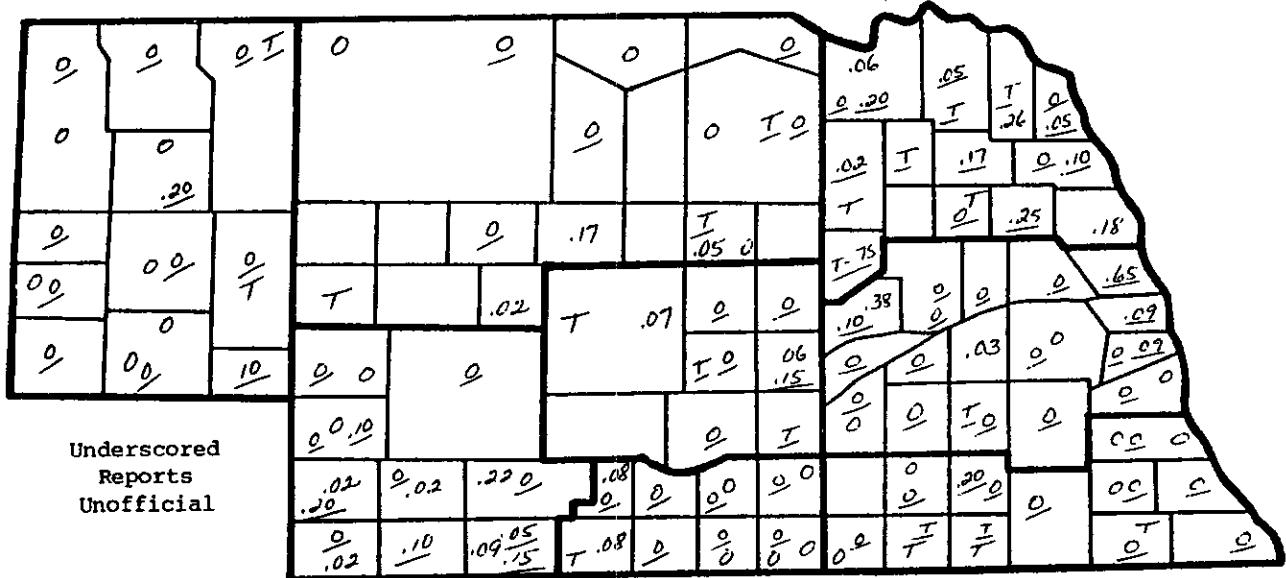
Second Class Postage
Paid at
Lincoln, Nebraska

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF MARCH 1992 1/



1/ Courtesy of the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 1, 1992



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 1, 1992

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week00	.03	.10	.04	.08	.05	.02	.01
Total since April 158	.44	1.23	.46	.99	.09	.38	1.79
Normal since April 1	1.84	2.28	2.58	2.50	2.91	1.87	2.22	2.88

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 3, 1992

Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	92	31	62	---	0	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	93	36	62	+10	T	76	179	123
	Sidney	91	31	62	---	0	71	175	130
NC	Valentine	100	32	62	+10	0	44	120	116
NE	Norfolk	95	26	63	+8	.02	---	---	---
	Sioux City	91	27	62	+6	T	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	13	118	150
CEN	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	26	132	140
	West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	25	129	154
	Grand Island	93	29	63	+7	.01	67	140	144
EC	Ord	93	28	64	---	.09	43	153	154
	Lincoln	90	28	63	+6	0	68	142	157
	Omaha	90	34	64	+8	.10	41	113	138
SW	Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	38	130	147
	York	---	---	---	---	---	58	142	158
	Imperial	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
SC	North Platte	98	29	63	+10	.14	**62	**174	**150
	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	72	178	165
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	54	158	181
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	57	161	167

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above. * Automated weather station. ** North Platte Experiment Station.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.